

## True Friends

(Final)

**Name:** Chai Hwee Han (3)

**Class:** 305

Would you agree with me if I told you “lets face it, friends are more important than oxygen”? This sentence is from the Lizzie McGuire poster I have tacked across my bed and is the first sentence I read every morning after opening my eyes. This sentence holds a lot of meaning for me as it made me realize that it is not ‘friends’ that are important, it is ‘true friends’.

I feel that true friends are few and far between and it would be hard to even have three true friends in one’s life. Hence, I believe that true friends are important as they are people whom I would go to confide in, are people who are willing to be my listening ear and will be there for me when others are not.

A while back, it was the End-of-Year examinations. Pressure was building up and I was feeling very tense. There were a lot of concerns looming over me, such as the concern of whether I would be able to pass. I could not take it anymore and broke down during the weekend while studying.

Out of desperation, I called my friend who was also studying for the same subjects. I vividly remember that she put aside her revision and we talked, or rather I did while she listened, for four hours. This made me realize she is a real friend as had it been any other person in that situation, I would have imagined they would just try to console me as best and as quickly as possible so that they could continue with their revision. But no, not this friend.

She gave me words of encouragement and even lent me her notes which she had specially compiled just for the End-of-Year examinations. It made me see that she actually cared enough about me to put me above her studies during the End-of-Year examinations, which was such a critical period.

As for my second friend, there were times back in Primary Five where she had problems with Mathematics. She would call me up at twelve midnight and we would work on the questions together.

On a night two years later, in Secondary One, I was having trouble sleeping because I had a lot on my mind. I wanted to have someone listen to me, so I called up people whom I knew well. Expectedly, none of them answered. Suddenly, I remembered her and decided to give it a try. She answered my call.

Though we had not communicated much after leaving primary school, she was still willing to listen to my troubles. I remember feeling so touched when she answered the call as it felt like there was finally a person who was willing to listen to me when the rest of the world could not be bothered to. It made me believe she is my true friend, a ‘gem’ in the haystack.

Walter Winchell once said, “A real friend is someone who walks in when the rest of the world walks out”. I really like this quote as I feel that it sums up how I feel about true friends. I believe in this quote as much as I believe that my two closest friends are people which have to be treated like treasures in my life and I have to hold on to them because “lets face it, *true* friends are more important than oxygen.”